



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

PANAMA CITY FIELD OFFICE, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
1002 WEST 23<sup>RD</sup> STREET, SUITE 350  
PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA 32405-3648

Regulatory Division  
Special Project/Enforcement Branch  
Enforcement Section

Permit Number: 200303431(RVH)

Date of Notice: **SEP 10 2004**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**1. TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** I, Colonel Robert M. Carpenter, District Engineer, Jacksonville District, propose to issue an Order assessing a Class I Administrative Penalty against Jimmy Meeks, for a violation of a permit granted under the Clean Water Act.

**2. PERMIT INVOLVED AND ALLEGED VIOLATION:** Department of the Army (DA) permit number 200303431 was issued to Jimmy Meeks on September 30, 2003. The permit authorized fill in approximately 0.10 acre of wetlands for single-family homes and fill in 0.28 acre of wetlands for roads. The project site is located on Kendrick Road, at the old "Alligator Farms", in Section 8, Township 7 South, Range 4 West, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida.

The permit was violated as follows:

Mr. Meeks failed to confine road impacts to the permitted area, which resulted in an additional impact to 0.22 acre of wetlands. Mr. Meeks failed to submit a deed restriction and to initiate creation to 0.82 acre of wetlands within the specified time frames. Erosion control devices were not deployed, resulting in impacts to 0.03 acre of wetlands.

**3. AUTHORITY FOR PROCEEDING:** This administrative penalty proceeding is initiated under the authority of 33 U.S.C. §1319(g) and 33 CFR Part 326.6. The procedure for assessing civil penalties in cases such as this is set out in the statute and the regulation. Following the discovery and investigation of a violation of a permit, notice is given to the responsible party, the appropriate State agency, and the public. The responsible party, the State, or any member of the public may file comments within 30 days. If requested by the responsible party, a hearing will be held before a Presiding Officer who will submit a report and recommend a decision to me. I will issue a Final Order on the case to the responsible party. Public participation in the hearing is permitted if a hearing is held.

4. **PENALTY PROPOSED:** The amount of the penalty proposed in this case is \$11,500. However, this proposal is subject to revision in the interests of justice after all evidence and comments have been received and reviewed. The amount of the penalty that I am authorized to assess as a Class I penalty is \$11,000 per violation and not more than \$27,500 total. In a case involving multiple violators, each violator is subject to a separate, not joint, penalty.

5. **REQUEST FOR HEARING:** The responsible party has 30 days following receipt of this formal notice of Proposed Penalty to request a hearing. Written request, by the responsible party, for a hearing should be directed to me within this designated comment period and must state the specific reasons for requesting a public hearing. The request should specify, in summary form, the factual and legal issues in dispute and the specific grounds for defense. The responsible party has a right to present evidence at the hearing; however, he may not challenge the permit condition(s) or limitation(s), which is the subject matter of this order.

6. **COMMENTS/ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD:** During the 30-day comment period, any person may submit written comments on the Proposed Penalty Order. These comments should be sent to me within this designated comment period. Any submitted comments will be included in the administrative record relating to the Proposed Order. All information submitted by the responsible party and persons commenting on the Proposed Order will be placed in the administrative record, which will be available for inspection during regular business hours at the Regulatory Division Office, Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. (The administrative record is subject to provisions of law restricting the disclosure of confidential information.)

7. **PUBLIC HEARING:** The responsible party and all persons who file comments will be given notice of any hearing held on this case. The responsible party and all commenters will have a reasonable opportunity to be heard and to present evidence at such hearing, if a hearing is held.

8. **FINAL DECISION:** If the responsible party does not request a hearing, I may issue the Final Order on this violation on or after 30 calendar days following receipt of this formal notice by the responsible party.